REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 20-31 are pending in the application, claims 11-19 being canceled herein, and claims 26-31 being new.

New claims 26-31 are apparatus claims corresponding substantially and respectively to method claims 20-25-which have already been considered by the Examiner.

No new issues are raised, nor is further search required, as a result of amendments made herein. It is respectfully requested that the amendments be entered and that the rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-25 over Chou in view of Schneier

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,353,124 to Chou et al. ("Chou") in view of Schneier (Applied Cryptography) ("Schneier"). Claims 11-19 are canceled herein. Otherwise, the Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-10 recite a comparison unit to compare, **at a near end**, a near end password at said device for controlling said facsimile transmission with a far end password **transmitted to said device for controlling said facsimile transmission**.

Claims 20-25 recite comparing, **at a near end**, a near end password at a device attempting to transmit a facsimile with a far end password **transmitted from said far end device at a receiving end of said facsimile transmission**.

The Examiner cites as a base reference Chou, but agrees that Chou fails to teach or suggest a MAJOR and SIGNIFICANT element of the present invention: "that the sender compares the receiver's password to a local password before sending the fax." (Office Action at 4)

To allegedly cure this major and significant deficiency of Chou, the Examiner cites Schneier as allegedly teaching "comparing the received password

to a locally computed password in order to authenticate a party". (Office Action at 4) The Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner cites page 54 of Schneier for allegedly teaching comparing a received password to a locally computed password to authenticate a party. (Office Action at 4). In this passage, the Examiner summarizes the cited teaching of Schneier as:

> a well-known authentication protocol in which the sender sends a string to the receiver. The receiver then encrypts the string with a private key, which is sent back to the sender (notification of a password request signal). This is synonymous with Chou's teaching of the receiver sending the key back to the sender. Once the sender has the key, the sender decrypts the key with the public key of the receiver, which the sender can look up. Chou teaches this step as well. The sender then compares the received key with the key that was first sent for a match. If a match is found, the sender knows the receiver is trustworthy.

The Examiner misunderstands Schneier. Schneier teaches a conventional encryption device that requires a physical KEY to be placed in the device. A physical encryption unit KEY is NOT a password, but rather the ENGINE of the encryption unit. Moreover, even if the Examiner still interprets the encryption unit physical KEY IS a password, it CAN'T BE TRANSMITTED, a requirement of all claims.

In particular, Schneier teaches the conventional use of encryption units, each of which requires a unique physical key. If the Examiner is suggesting that the KEY is read on by the 'password' language of the claims of the present invention, then Schneier in fact teaches AWAY from the present invention because the key CANNOT BE TRANSMITTED. All pending claims explicitly require transmission of a far end password to a near end device for comparison. Schneier's physical key cannot be transmitted. This is a basic tenet of the technology to which the Examiner refers.

Moreover, the key is NOT A PASSWORD. The key is the ENGINE itself. According to Schneier, a known data string is passed from the near end

device to the far end device, is ENCRYPTED at the far end, and passed back to the near end. Analysis of a specific ENCRYPTION is NOT comparison of a password as the Examiner alleges.

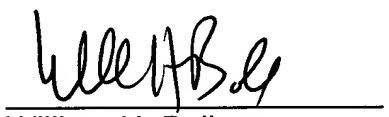
Neither Chou nor Schneier discloses, teaches or suggests comparison of a **password** at a **near end** device attempting to transmit a facsimile with a far end password **TRANSMITTED from the far end device at a receiving end of the facsimile transmission**, as recited by the claims of the present invention.

For at least all the above reasons, claims 1-10 and 20-25 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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